

CLAIMS

1. A mattress construction, comprising:
a resilient core;
5 an outer cover for surrounding and enclosing said resilient core, said outer cover being formed of a transparent sheet material to permit visualization through said outer cover.
2. The mattress construction of claim 1, wherein said outer cover is formed
10 by at least one sealed seam.
3. The mattress construction of claim 2, wherein said outer cover is sealed in airtight fashion to define at least one air bladder.
- 15 4. The mattress construction of claim 3, wherein said resilient core comprises air under pressure within said at least one air bladder.
5. The mattress construction of claim 1, wherein said transparent sheet material is formed of a high strength flexible polymer.
20
6. The mattress construction of claim 5, where said flexible polymer comprises polyvinyl chloride.

7. The mattress construction of claim 6, wherein said transparent sheet material is about 24 mils thick.

5 8. The mattress construction of claim 1, wherein said resilient core is comprised of resilient fill material.

9. The mattress construction of claim 1, wherein said outer cover is comprised of a plurality of components formed of said transparent sheet material, and at least one seam for joining said components to form an enclosed envelope.
10

10. The mattress construction of claim 9, wherein said at least one seam is a stitched seam.

11. The mattress construction of claim 10, wherein said at least one seam is heat sealed to form an airtight seam, whereby said enclosed envelope is pressure-retaining.
15

12. The mattress construction of claim 9, wherein said plurality of components include top and bottom panels having matching perimeter edge configurations, and a sidewall extending between said top and bottom panels and having top and bottom edges joined to said matching perimeter edge configurations in continuous fashion to define therewith an enclosed envelope.
20

13. The mattress construction of claim 11, further including interior support features within said pressure-retaining enclosed envelope, said interior support features being formed of transparent material.

5 14. The mattress construction of claim 8, wherein said resilient fill material is selected to be one or more of the following: natural fiber, cotton batting, polyester batting, expanded foam material, air or water bladders.

10 15. The mattress construction of claim 1, wherein said transparent sheet material has a thickness ranging between 4 mils to 50 mils.